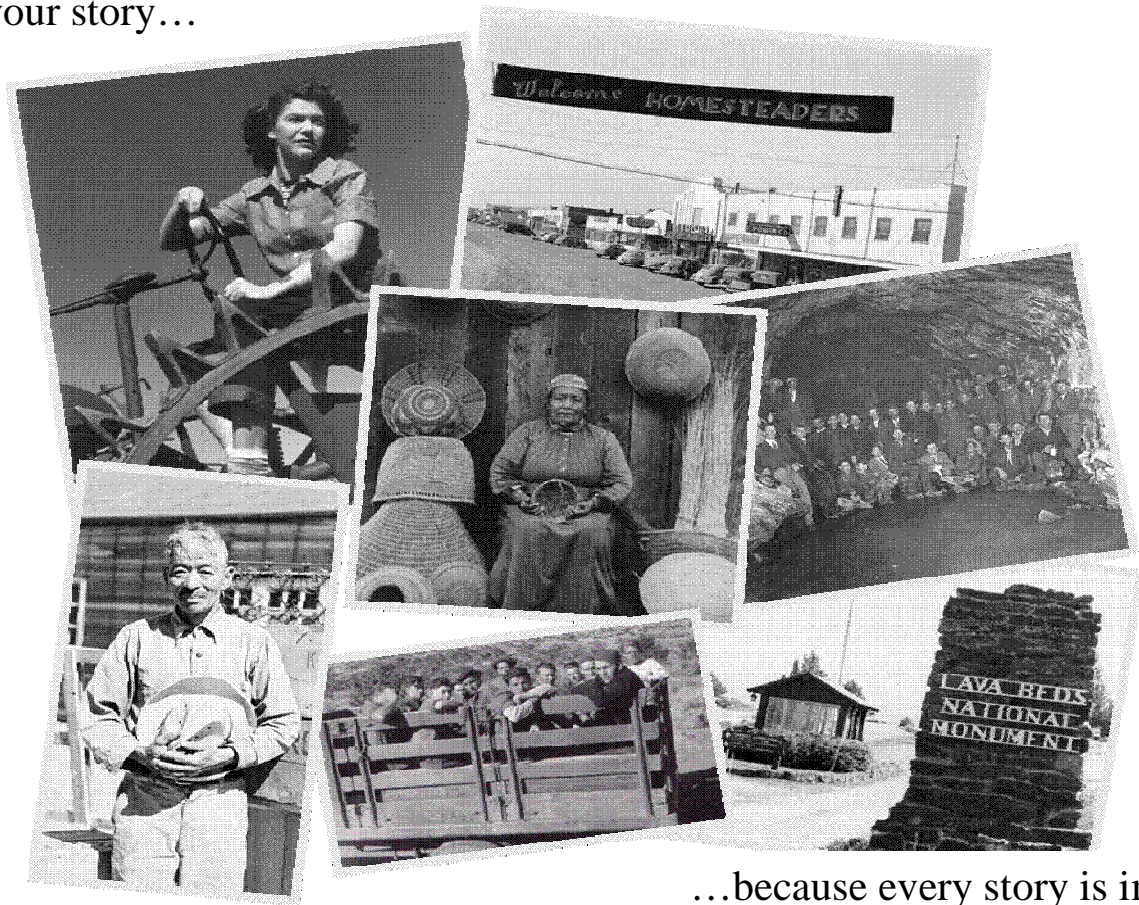




## Basin Legacy Oral History Project: Capturing Our Basin's Legacy

Share your story...



...because every story is important.

### **Lava Beds National Monument is interested in your story!**

The rich history of this basin spans several decades and Lava Beds wants to preserve your stories for future generations. We are looking for people interested in being interviewed and sharing their stories for the Basin Legacy Oral History Project. These recorded interviews allow your history to be preserved and passed on to future generations. By participating, your family will also receive a copy of the interview to cherish.

If you or someone in your family is interested in being either video or audio interviewed please contact the visitor center at 530-667-8113 or by e-mail at [terry\\_harris@nps.gov](mailto:terry_harris@nps.gov).

**This guide is intended to introduce you to the Basin Legacy Oral History Project, and help individuals and families who wish to preserve and share their stories through an oral history interview.**

***What is oral history?***

Oral history is historical information gathered through an individual's spoken memories, personal commentaries, recollections, perspectives, interpretations, and narrative accounts of past events and experiences. Oral histories are usually gathered through audio and/or video interviews.



***Why do you want to interview me?***

Every story is unique, special and significant. Your perspective is valuable and can help others to learn and understand the history of this basin. This is also a way to preserve your life story or experiences for future generations and your family.

***Who would interview me & where would it take place?***

Interviewers from Lava Beds usually work in pairs of two, with one person asking the questions and the other operating the camera or tape recorder. The interviewer will contact you in advance to select a convenient location such as your home, Lava Beds National Monument, the Tulelake fair grounds or the studio at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls, Oregon.

***What will you do with the interviews?***

We will not do anything with them without your written permission. If you agree by signing the permission form, your interview will be used for historical and educational purposes. Interviews may be used in the development of on site exhibits in Lava Beds, education materials, films, or possibly in one of the exhibits by the Tulelake Museum. Your interview will be transcribed into written format, and you will receive copies off all materials generated as part of your interview.

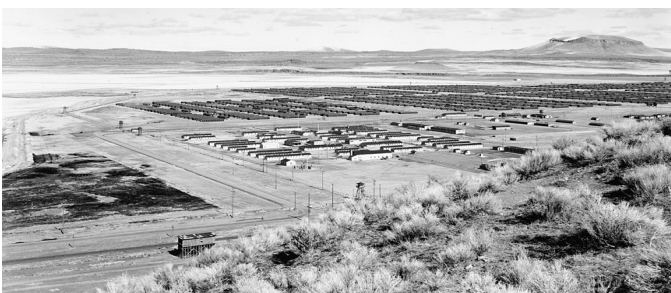
***How will you record the interviews?***

Video interviews are the preferred interview, because it allows us to capture your expressions and gestures as you talk about your experience. However, we can record just audio interviews for anyone who prefers not to be filmed.

***What kinds of questions will you be asking?***

Questions will depend on what your story is about. For example, if you were a member of the Conservation Civilian Corps (CCC) at Camp Lava Beds or Camp Tule Lake, we would ask you about your work and life experiences at the camp. The main thing to remember is there are no right or wrong answers during your oral history interview. We are looking to capture your story in your own words. There are a few general questions on the next page to give you an idea of what we might ask you.

If you have any other questions please feel free to contact us at 530-667-8113 or [terry\\_harris@nps.gov](mailto:terry_harris@nps.gov).



# Biographical Summary

**Mail:** Basin Legacy Oral History Project, Attn: Terry Harris

**Lava Beds National Monument, 1 Indian Well Hqtrs., Tulelake, CA 96134**

**E-Mail:** terry\_harris@nps.gov

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle name \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden name or nickname \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse(s)

Current mailing address

Street address (if different than your mailing address)

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

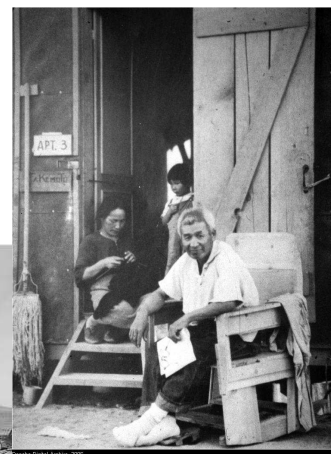
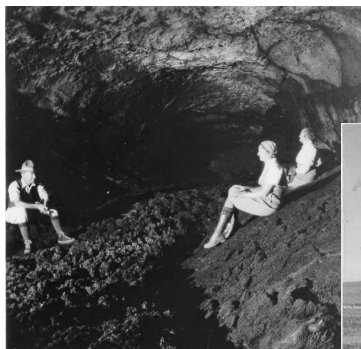
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been interviewed about your recollections before? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If so, when and with whom?

Do you know of anyone else who might be interested in sharing their stories? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If so, who, and how can we contact them?



# Possible Interview Questions

## **Local Community Member:**

How long have you lived and/or worked in the basin?

What first brought you to the area? (homestead, internment camp, CCC, work opportunity)

What was your first impression of the area?

Did you help in the establishment of any of the nearby towns? (Tulelake, Merrill, Malin)

## **Homesteader:**

In what allotment did your family receive their homestead?

Were you provided a barrack from the internment camp or did you have to purchase one?

What were some of the crops you grew? What do you or your family grow today?

## **Civilian Conservation Corps:**

At what camp(s) were you stationed, during your CCC days and for how long? (Camp Tule Lake, Camp Lava Beds, Camp Clear Lake)

What was day-to-day life like in the camp?

What were some of the major projects you worked on?

What kinds of training and education did you receive while at the camp?

## **Internment Camp: Internee, Community Member or Worker at the Camp:**

When did you first arrive at the camp?

What were some of your duties at the camp?

Describe your first reaction when you found out an internment camp was coming to the basin?

## **Early Caver:**

When was your first caving trip to Lava Beds? Do you have a favorite cave or caving trip?

What or who got you interested in caving at Lava Beds?

What are your recollections of other early cave explorers?

Were or are you connected with any caving organizations?